

# Washington State Patrol Media Release

**Chief John R. Batiste**

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**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

**Date:** February 13, 2009  
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## One Killed in Fiery Crash

At approximately 01:55 am Friday morning, WSP Troopers responded to a 1 car rollover collision northbound I-5 on the exit to NE 50<sup>th</sup> St. When troopers arrived they observed the vehicle, a 1990's model Chevrolet Blazer, to be on its top and fully engulfed in flames.

The driver, a 31 year old Seattle man, was able to extract himself from the vehicle and is currently at Harborview Medical Center with life threatening injuries. The passenger was unable to exit the vehicle and was declared deceased at the scene. The passengers identity is unknown at this time.

The Blazer was traveling at a high rate of speed on the off-ramp to NE 50<sup>th</sup> St. It drove off the roadway and collided with 2 traffic light poles and the 7<sup>th</sup> St NE overpass, before rolling onto its top and bursting into flames.

Excessive speed was a cause in the collision. It is still being investigated whether alcohol was a factor.

As of 6:00 am the northbound I-5 off-ramp to NE 50<sup>th</sup> remains closed. Motorists are currently being detoured to NE 45<sup>th</sup> St.



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